



The Council
of State
Governments

Cannabis Waste Disposal Policies in the South

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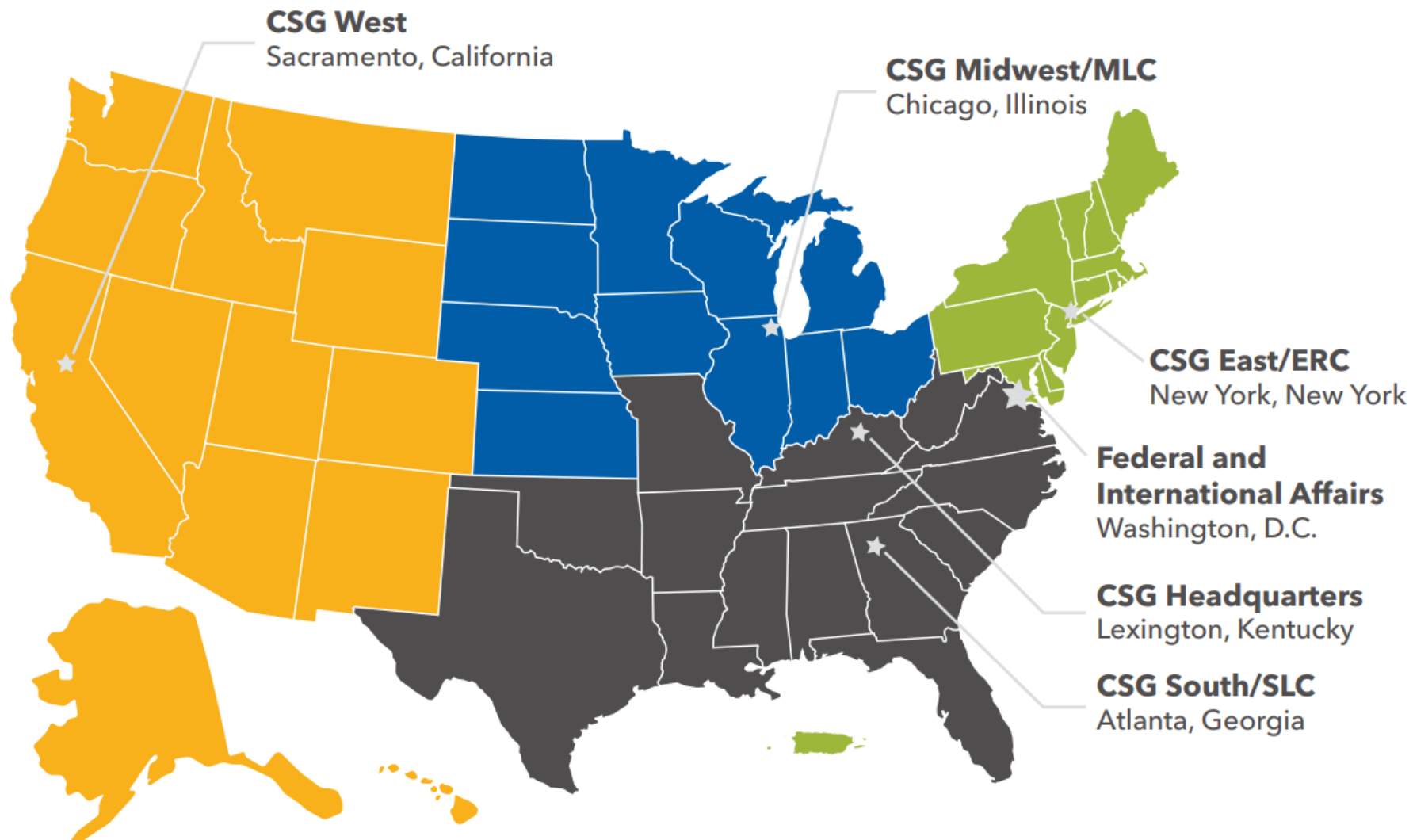
Introduction



The Council
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CSG 101: About Us

- Founded in 1933 by Colorado Sen. Henry Wolcott Toll
- Serves all three Branches of State Government
- Nonpartisan/Not for Profit 501 (c) (3)
- \$54 Million Budget
- 200+ Employees
- Four Strong Regions
- 56 Member States & Territories
- Justice Center
- Affiliated Organizations



CSG 101: Our Mission

CSG champions excellence in state governments to advance the common good.

How Does CSG Accomplish Mission?

- Connect and Convene
- Technical Assistance: Sharing What Works
- Information and Intelligence, Research and Analysis
- Interstate, Interbranch, International Cooperation
- Partnerships

Federal and State Policies



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Federal Policy

- No federal policy on cannabis waste disposal
- Cannabis is listed as a Schedule I drug under the Controlled Substances Act
- “High potential for abuse” with “no currently accepted medical use in treatment in the United States.”
- In October 2022, President Biden asked the DOJ and HHS to review the Schedule I status
- Hemp was legalized in the 2018 Farm Bill



Alabama

- Medical cannabis program codified by Senate Bill 165 (2020)
- Expected to begin operating in late 2023 or early 2024
- Alabama Medical Cannabis Commission has oversight authority
- All licensed facilities must use a third-party seed-to-sale inventory control and tracking system, includes cannabis waste disposal
- Regulations require licensees to develop an annual plan for cannabis waste disposal that leaves the waste unusable



Arkansas

- Medical marijuana program created by Amendment 98 (2016)
- Arkansas Medical Marijuana Commission oversees cultivation licenses and Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Division licenses dispensaries
- All licensed facilities must use the state's Inventory Tracking System, including for cannabis waste disposal, and a surveillance system
- Disposal must occur on video surveillance system with weighed amounts recorded in the Inventory Tracking System
- Facilities must notify the ABC Division at least 3 business days prior to disposal
- Waste must be rendered unusable by grinding the plant with other ground materials
- Final waste may be composted, placed in a landfill, or incinerated



Florida

- Medical marijuana program created by Amendment 2 (2016)
- Department of Health oversees medical marijuana and Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) oversees waste
- All cannabis plants must be documented in the state's tracking system
- Waste must be rendered unusable and unrecognizable by combining with compostable material, non-compostable material, or chemically altered
- Facilities must provide notice of intent at least 3 business days prior to disposal
- Disposal of waste must occur on a video surveillance system with two employees present with the disposal method documented
- Final waste may be composted or delivered to a waste facility



Louisiana

- Medical marijuana program codified by Senate Bill 271 (2016)
- Regulated by the Board of Pharmacy and the Department of Agriculture and Forestry
- All medical marijuana cultivators must use the Louisiana Medical Marijuana Tracking System (LMMTS) and a video surveillance system
- Permitted facilities must maintain an inventory, update weekly
- Marijuana must be stored in a restricted-access area until incinerated, composted, or moved to a landfill
- Rules specify guidelines for pharmacies to dispose of waste
- Waste must be rendered unusable by grinding the plant with other ground materials



Mississippi

- Medical marijuana program codified by Senate Bill 2095 (2022)
- Regulated by the Department of Health
- Cannabis disposal entities must be licensed by the Department of Health
- All medical cannabis facilities must use the state's inventory tracking system and a video surveillance system
- Disposal process must be recorded on a video surveillance system
- Requires waste to be rendered unusable and unrecognizable by grinding and mixing it with at least 50 percent non-cannabis waste
- Specifies the mixing materials that can be used for disposal or composting of cannabis waste



Oklahoma

- Medical marijuana program created by State Question 788 (2018), updated with Senate Bill 882 (2019)
- Regulated by the Department of Health, Oklahoma Medical Marijuana Authority (OMMA) division
- Codified medical marijuana waste disposal facilities and specified the requirements to obtain a license to operate
- All medical marijuana facilities must use the state's inventory tracking system
- Marijuana waste must be rendered unusable through physical destruction or recycling
- Disposal method and precise weight of the marijuana waste must be recorded on a disposal log supplied by OMMA



Texas

- “Low-THC cannabis Compassionate Use” program codified by Senate Bill 339 (2015)
- Administered by the Department of Public Safety
- All medical cannabis facilities must use the state’s inventory tracking system
- Waste materials must be rendered irretrievable and comply with local, state, and federal waste regulations
- Licensees must maintain records of waste disposal

Virginia

- Cannabidiol oil or THC-A oil treatment for epilepsy legalized by House Bill 1445 (2015)
- Administered by the Board of Pharmacy
- All medical cannabis facilities must use the state's inventory tracking system
- Requires cannabis waste to be weighed, ground, and combined with non-cannabis waste to render the mixture inactive and unrecognizable
- Disposal process must be witnessed by a pharmacist and at least one other employee of the facility and conducted under video surveillance
- Must record the date, time, and manner of disposal, the name and quantity of cannabis product, and the signature of the persons who completed the process
- Non-medical adult use of marijuana codified by House Bill 2312 (2021)



West Virginia

- Medical cannabis program codified by Senate Bill 386 (2017)
- Regulated by Bureau of Public Health, Office of Medical Cannabis
- Licensees must adopt a seed-to-sale tracking system including a system to track waste containing the name and address of any disposal service used
- Before leaving a licensed facility, waste must be rendered unusable and unrecognizable by thermal treatment or melting, shredding, grinding or tearing, or combining with other non-cannabis waste
- Waste may also be composted on-site, if the facility has the required permit



Cannabis Waste Potential Uses



Questions?

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